

In the Claims:

Please replace pending Claims 1, 16, 17 and 20 with the following replacement Claims 1, 16, 17 and 20, respectively.

403
B1
A1

1. (Amended) A liquid permeable composite material, comprising:
a first layer including a plurality of apertures; and
a substructure applied to the first layer, wherein the substructure and the first layer define a plurality of voids for accommodating passage of fluids through the composite material.

403
B1
A2

16. (Amended) A composite material, comprising:
a first layer including a plurality of apertures; and
a substructure bonded to the first layer, wherein the substructure and the first layer define a plurality of compartments forming fluid communication between the first layer and the substructure for accommodating passage of fluids through the composite material.

17. (Amended) The composite material of Claim 16, wherein the compartments have a triangular cross section.